AMENDMENT

Amendment to the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-12 and add new claims 13-17.

Claims 1 – 12 (cancelled)

13. (New) Method for splicing a target RNA molecule comprising a mutant p53 nucleotide sequence within a cell in culture with a separate RNA molecule comprising a wild type p53 nucleotide sequence, wherein a protein product of the target RNA molecule is deleterious to the cell in which it is located, and wherein the separate RNA molecule is adapted to form a target RNA molecule with the wild type p53 nucleotide sequence in place of mutant p53 nucleotide sequence when spliced with at least a part of the target RNA molecule, the method comprising:

contacting the target RNA molecule with a catalytic RNA molecule comprising the separate RNA molecule, under conditions in which at least a portion of the separate RNA molecule is spliced with at least a portion of the target RNA molecule to form the target RNA molecule with the wild type p53 nucleotide sequence in place of mutant p53 nucleotide sequence when spliced with at least a part of the target RNA molecule.

14. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the catalytic RNA molecule is active to cleave the target RNA molecule comprising a mutant p53 nucleotide sequence and to splice the separate RNA molecule with the target RNA molecule comprising a mutant p53 nucleotide sequence.

15. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the contacting is in vitro.

16. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the contacting comprises providing a vector encoding the catalytic RNA molecule, wherein the catalytic RNA molecule includes the separate RNA molecule comprising a wild-type p53 nucleotide sequence.

17. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the catalytic RNA molecule is derived from a group I or group II intron molecule.

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